

**IMPROVED TECHNIQUES FOR SPATIAL REPRESENTATION OF DATA
AND BROWSING BASED ON SIMILARITY**

Hawley K. Rising III

5 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

 The present invention provides improved techniques
for spatial representation of data and browsing based
on similarity. For example, improved techniques for
spatial representation of image data and browsing the
10 image data based on the similarities (or
dissimilarities) of the images are provided. In one
embodiment, a hierarchical MultiDimensional Scaling
(MDS) database for a set of images is provided, which
allows for computationally efficient querying and
15 updating of an image database. In one embodiment,
techniques for modifying an MDS database for images are
provided to allow for more intuitive browsing (or
searching) of the images.

: